States/UTs on account of non availability of levy sugar needed for any upward revision on the basis of projected population of 1996.

Revised sale price of sugar under PDS

496. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised and raised the sale price of sugar under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the extent of increase, and the revised price so fixed; and

(c) the reasons for the increase in price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government have revised and raised the retail issue price of levy sugar under Public Distribution System (PDS) w.e.f. 1.10.97. The price has been rasied from 10.50 per kg. to Rs. 11.40 per kg.

This decision has been taken in view of the likely increase in the prices of levy sugar due to the increase in Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for sugar season 1997-98 which has been fixed at Rs. 48.45 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% subject to a premium for higher recoveries. In the last sugar season SMP was fixed at Rs. 45.90 per quintal.

States demand for enhanced allocation of foodgrains

497. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have demanded enhanced allocation of foodgrains to their States during the current year;

(b) if so, the steps taken to enhance the allocation to Orissa and other States since September last; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) To streamline the PDS for serving the population Below Poverty Line (BPL), Targeted Public Distribution System has been implemented throughout the country w.e.f. 1st June, 1997. Under the new system allocations of food grains are based on the average annual lifting for the past ten years taking into account the requirement of BPL families @ 10 kg. per month per family. Requirements of any State over and above the TPDS quotas, can be met subject to the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and at the rates which are commercially viable (Economic Cost) to FCI. However, Government has now decided to issue additional allocation of rice & wheat for the month of December, 97 on CIP applicable for Above Poverty Line families. A Statement showing the additional allotments of foodgrain (wheat and rice) to Orissa and other States since September, 97 is given below.